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Letter dated 11 January 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on the Sudan — signing of the comprehensive peace agreement on 9 January 2005 in Nairobi, issued on 11 January 2005 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jean-Marc **Hoscheit**
Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 11 January 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement on the Sudan — signing of the comprehensive peace agreement on 9 January 2005 in Nairobi, issued on 11 January 2005 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union warmly welcomes the signing of the comprehensive peace agreement between the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A). This agreement puts an end to one of the longest and most deadly conflicts on the African continent, which has cost the lives of 2 million people, and opens the way to a comprehensive political process designed to promote peace and development in all the regions of the Sudan.

The European Union commends the parties to the conflict and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and its Mediator, General Lazarus Sumbeiy o, as well as all international observers, for this historic outcome. It congratulates the Kenyan Government for hosting and sustaining the negotiations.

The European Union would issue an appeal to the Sudanese Government and to SPLM/A rapidly to implement the agreement in full and reiterates its support for the international efforts to consolidate the agreement in close coordination with the United Nations, the African Union and IGAD.

However, a lasting peaceful solution cannot be achieved without a political solution to the Darfur conflict and other conflicts in the Sudan, particularly in the eastern region. The European Union urges the parties to seize this opportunity to work to restore peace throughout Sudanese territory as a whole.

The European Union is deeply dismayed that violence has once again erupted in Darfur and condemns the fact that all parties to the conflict have repeatedly broken the ceasefire. The resurgence of violence in Darfur can only have a negative impact on the efforts which the international community is prepared to make to assist in the reconstruction of the country, both in the north and in the south. The European Union calls on the signatories of the peace agreement and on all those involved in the conflict to strive for an equitable and lasting solution. In this connection, it takes note of Mr. Garang's stated desire to participate in the Abuja talks. The progress of relations between the European Union and the Sudan, in particular as regards the various parties to the conflict, will be closely linked to the efforts of all in seeking peace.

The candidate countries Bulgaria, Croatia,* Romania and Turkey, the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this statement.

* Croatia continues to be part of the stabilization and association process.